

Application No.: 09/828,976Docket No.: 30003575-4**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the entire "Summary of Invention" portion of the specification with the following:

According to one aspect of the present invention, a method of monitoring location-associated events comprises the steps of:

- (a) storing first data that concerns a future visit of the first party to the premises and explicitly or implicitly identifies the parties and location of the premises;
- (b) storing, independently of the first party, second data indicative of the current status of the transaction, said second data being updated by the second party; and
- (c) determining, by using a technical arrangement, when a mobile entity carried by the first party is close to said location identified in the first data, and thereupon automatically checking said stored second data to ascertain whether or not the transaction has reached a predetermined status at which it is appropriate for said future visit to be effected, and
- (d) at least where making the visit is found in step (c) to be appropriate, notifying the first party by a communication passed to said mobile entity over a communication system that making the visit is appropriate.

An additional aspect of the invention relates to a notification system concerning a transaction being effected between a mobile first party and a second party having associated premises, the system comprising: a first store adapted to store first data about a future visit of the first party to said premises with respect to the transaction, said first data explicitly or implicitly identifying the parties and the location of the premises; a second store, independent of the first party, adapted to store second data indicative of the current status of said transaction, said second store being operative to permit said second data to be updated by the second party; and an

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automatic processor arrangement for:

(a) determining when a mobile entity carried by the first party is close to said location identified in the first data,

(b) thereupon checking said stored second data to ascertain whether or not the transaction has reached a predetermined status at which it is appropriate for said future visit to be effected in response to the location matching arrangement determining that the first party is close to said location, and

(c) notifying the first party of the result of the check carried out by the checking arrangement at least where making the visit is found to be appropriate, the processor being arranged for notifying the first party by causing a communication to be passed to said mobile entity over a communication subsystem.

According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a storage medium or storage device, readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a notification method concerning a transaction being effected between a mobile first party and a second party having associated premises, the method comprising:

(a) storing first data as to a future visit of the first party to the premises and explicitly or implicitly identifying the parties and location of the premises;

(b) storing, independently of the first party, second data indicative of the current status of the transaction, said second data being updated by the second party;

(c) determining when a mobile entity carried by the first party is close to said identified location, and thereupon checking said stored second data to ascertain whether or not the transaction has reached a predetermined status appropriate for said future visit to be effected, and

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(d) at least where making the visit is found in step (c) to be appropriate, notifying the first party by a communication passed to said mobile entity over a communication system that making the visit is appropriate.